

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Kindly amend claims 1 – 11 and add claim 19 without prejudice to the subject matter involved. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more continuing applications directed to any canceled subject matter. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently amended): A process for of applying a liquid to a finely-milled solid; that is to be finely milled in which the said liquid to be applied to a said solid that is to be finely milled is introduced via a nozzle as a finely divided liquid either separately into the milling zone of a fine milling device during the milling operation or simultaneously with the introduction of the said solid to be finely milled, and the fine milling is carried out in the presence of the said finely divided liquid; and where the ratio of said solid to said liquid is controlled by means of a regulating unit.

Claim 2. (Currently amended): A process according to claim 1, in which there is used a fine milling device in which the material for milling solid that is to be finely milled is moved by a milling gas stream flowing through the milling zone.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended): A process according to claim 1, in which the fine milling device is a gas-jet or fluidised-bed counter-jet mill is used.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended): A process according to claim 1, in which the fine milling device is an impact mill is used.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended): A process according to claim 1, in which the fine milling device is a hammer mill is used.

Claim 6. (Currently Amended): A process according to claim 1, in which a ready-formulated active ingredient mixture is used as the solid that is to be finely milled is a ready-formulated active ingredient mixture and charged with a liquid.

Claim 7. (Currently Amended): A process according to any one of claims 1 to 6, claim 1, in which a ready-formulated pesticide or a crop protection product is used as the material for milling.

Claim 8. (Currently Amended): A process according to claim 1, in which the particle size of the solid that is to be finely milled is in the range of from 40 µm to 200 µm.

Claim 9. (Currently Amended): A process according to claim 1, in which the particle size of the solid that is to be finely milled is in the range of from 80 µm to 120 µm.

Claim 10. (Currently Amended): A process according to claim 1, in which the liquid to be applied to the finely milled solid is a liquid active ingredient, the solution of an active ingredient, a surface-active substance, a flavouring or an attractant.

Claim 11. (Currently Amended): A process according to claim 1, in which the amount of liquid to be applied is in the range of from 0.001 to 240% by weight, based on the solid that is to be finely milled.

Claim 12. (Previously presented): A device for carrying out the process according to claim 1, which device, as well as comprising means for introducing and for finely milling the material to be milled and means for discharging the product, comprises a device which enables a finely divided liquid to be metered into the milling zone during the fine milling operation or simultaneously with the introduction of the material for milling.

Claim 13. (Original): A device according to claim 12, through which a milling or carrier gas flows and which, as well as comprising a milling zone, a pipe for supplying the material for milling to the milling zone, a pipe for supplying the milling or carrier gas to the milling zone, a discharge pipe for the milling or carrier gas containing the finely milled solid charged with a liquid, and a separating device for separating the finely milled solid charged with a liquid from the milling or carrier gas, comprises a device which enables a finely divided liquid either to be metered into the milling zone by way of the milling or carrier gas stream or to be metered directly into the milling zone.

Claim 14. (Previously presented): A device according to claim 12, comprising a gas-jet mill 101, a storage container 102 for the material for milling, a feed device 103 for the material for milling, which feed device 103 is provided with a supply pipe 104 for carrier gas, a supply pipe 105 for introducing the material for milling into the gas-jet mill 101, a supply pipe 106 for the milling gas, a discharge pipe 113 for the milling gas containing the finely milled solid charged with a liquid, a device 114 for separating the finely milled solid charged with a liquid from the milling gas, a pipe 115 for removing the finely milled solid charged with a liquid, and a discharge pipe 116 for the milling gas freed of the solid, which device is provided with a storage container 109 for the liquid to be applied, a pipe 110 for supplying the liquid to be applied into the milling gas stream 106, a liquid pump 111, arranged in the supply pipe 110, for metering the liquid either into the milling gas stream 106 or via pipe 110a and a nozzle 108 into the gas-jet mill 101, and a regulating device 118, which is connected to the pump 111 and the feed device 103 via a control line 119, for controlling the ratio of solid to be finely milled to liquid to be applied.

Claim 15. (Original): A device according to claim 14, which, instead of being provided with a pipe 116 for discharging the milling gas freed of the finely milled solid, is provided with a pipe 116a for returning the milling gas freed of the solid into the supply pipe 106 and with a compressor 117 arranged in the pipe 116a.

Claim 16. (Previously presented): A device according to claim 12, comprising a mechanical mill 201, a storage container 202 for the material for milling, a feed device 203 for the material for milling, a supply pipe 204 for introducing the material for milling into the mechanical mill 201, a supply pipe 205 for the carrier gas, a discharge pipe 212 for the carrier gas containing the finely milled solid charged with a liquid, a device 213 for separating the finely milled solid charged with a liquid from the carrier gas, a pipe 214 for removing the finely milled solid charged with a liquid, and a discharge pipe 215 for the carrier gas freed of the solid, which device is provided with a storage container 208 for the liquid to be applied, a supply pipe 209 for the liquid to be applied, a liquid pump 210, arranged in the supply pipe 209, for metering the liquid either into the carrier gas stream 205 or via pipe 209a and a nozzle 207 into the mechanical mill 201, and a regulating device 217, connected to the pump 210 and the feed device 203 via a control line 218, for controlling the ratio of solid to be finely milled to liquid to be applied thereto.

Claim 17. (Original): A device according to claim 16, which, instead of being provided with a pipe 215 for discharging the milling gas freed of the finely milled solid, is provided with a pipe 215a for returning the milling gas freed of the solid into the supply pipe 205 and with a compressor 216 arranged in the pipe 215a.

Claim 18. (Previously presented): A device according to claim 14, in which the liquid container 109 or 208, the pipe 110 or 209 and the pump 111 or 210 is provided with a heating device.

Claim 19. (New): A process according to claim 1 where the solid is thiamethoxam.